

Letter from Arthur McCurdy to Sarah Fuller, December 21, 1894

Beinn Bhreagh, 69 Victoria County, Cape Breton, N.S. Dec. 21st. 1894 Dear Miss Fuller:—

Mr Bell asks me to enclose a copy of a letter he has addressed to Mr Thompson concerning the constitution of the proposed Association.

Yours sincerely, Arthur

(Copy) 70 Dec. 20th. 1894. Dear Mr. Thompson:—

In regard to proposed Constitution I have no further remarks of moment to make beyond those contained in my note of December 1st.

The rest of the Constitution relates largely to duties of officers &c. legal matters upon which I am not competent to express an opinion.

Miss Fuller seems to think that you are committed to the name of Francis Green in the title of the Association. I think it would be very unwise to have the feeling that you are committed to anything at all. I would select that name which seems to you most fitting and appropriate quite irrespective of what has been thought of in the past. It would be a very good thing to rescue from oblivion the name of Francis Green — the pioneer in the work of instructing the deaf in America, and it might be an appropriate thing to bestow upon this Boston Association of parents the name of a Boston man, himself a parent of deaf children — the distinguished author of “Vox o O culis s S ubjects” —, the first to advocate the establishment of a school in Boston, and whose early efforts in Boston in 1803 to promote the instruction of the deaf in America, undoubtedly had an influence in the subsequent efforts in 1815 that resulted in the establishment of the first school in this country. The name “Francis Green Parents' Association” would be a specific title and yet avoid the use

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of the words deaf 2 or deaf and dumb with in the name of the Association, which would be an advantage.

The other names proposed viz:— (1) “Horace Mann School Parents' Association”, (2) “Boston Association of Parents of Deaf Children”, also seem to me to be appropriate and suitable names. I think the time has come when you had better go ahead and complete the Association without reference to me.

Wishing you every success and the compliments of the Season, I am,

Yours very sincerely, (Sgd.) Alexander Graham Bell. Dictated. Dear Miss Fuller P. S. I am hard at work on the revision of my Address at Horace Mann School. Will forward as soon as possible. By the bye a friend of ours M r . Ritman, wife & Rev. M r . Ritman , is, I understand in Newton Lower Falls — with her mother M rs . Fremaine of Baddeck (wife of Judge Fremaine) her husband. You met M r. Fremaine at the Golden Wedding. M r . Ritman is probably dying — from some internal tumor & went to Boston to undergo an operations. Her friends have fear it is too late. At last they were living in Newton Lower Falls. If you can do anything for them I am sure owe you will do so. Remember us kindly to them if you see there. I to be in Boston about Dec. 20 & January. regards to all at home A. G. Bell